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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/698,655	10/31/2003	Jai N. Subrahmanyam	K35A1397	3769

35219 7590 06/29/2005

WESTERN DIGITAL TECHNOLOGIES, INC.
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EXAMINER

DAVIS, DAVID DONALD

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2652

DATE MAILED: 06/29/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/698,655	Applicant(s) SUBRAHMANYAM ET AL.	
	Examiner David D. Davis	Art Unit 2652	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-22 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-22 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless --

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1-22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Okumura (US 6,160,688). As per claims 1, Okumura shows in figure 1 a slider for a disk drive. The slider includes a slider body 12 having a slider body outer surface 11a & 11b; an inductive write head including main and return poles 18 & 17 and a slider ground pad 24 disposed at the slider body outer surface 11a & 11b. The ground pad 24 is in electrical communication with the main and return poles 18 & 17 for electrically grounding the main and return poles 18 & 17, as shown in figure 1. See column 5, lines 27-50 of Okumura.

As per claim 2, Okumura shows in figure 1 that the main and return poles are electrically connected. As per claim 3, Okumura shows in figure 1 that the slider ground pad 24 is electrically connected to the main pole. The slider ground pad 24 is in electrical communication with the return pole through the main pole.

As per claim 4, Okumura shows in figure 1 and discloses in column 5, lines 27-50 that a first thin film resistor layer, which is apart of pad 24, is disposed upon the main pole towards the slider body outer surface 11a & 11b. The slider ground pad 24 is disposed in electrical communication with the first thin film resistor layer, and pad 24 is in electrical communication with the return pole through the main pole. As per claim 5, Okumura shows in figure 1 a read

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head having top and bottom shields 14 & 17. The top shield is disposed adjacent the return pole. Okumura shows in figure 1 that the slider ground pad 24 is disposed in electrical communication with the top and bottom shields.

As per claim 6, Okumura shows in figure 1 that the slider ground pad 24 is disposed in electrical communication with the top and bottom shields through the main and return poles 17 & 18. As per claim 7, Okumura shows in figure 1 the return pole is electrically connected to the top shield. As per claim 8, Okumura shows in figure 1 that the read head includes a second thin film resistor layer 16 disposed between the top and bottom shields. The top shield is electrically connected to the bottom shield through the second thin film resistor layer. Also, the slider ground pad 24 is disposed in electrical communication with the bottom shield through the top shield.

As per claim 9, Okumura discloses in column 5, lines 37-39 and shows in figure 1 a ground via 15 formed in the slider body 12. The ground via 15 is disposed in electrical communication with the slider ground pad 24 and the top and bottom shields. The main and return poles 17 & 18 are in electrical communication with the slider ground pad 24 through the top and bottom shields.

As per claim 10, Okumura shows in figures 3 and 5 a disk drive including a disk drive base; an actuator arm 47 rotatably coupled to the disk drive base; and a slider distally coupled to the actuator arm 47. The slider includes a slider body 12 having a slider body outer surface 11a & 11b', an inductive write head including main and return poles 17 & 18; and a slider ground pad 26 disposed at the slider body outer surface 11a & 11b. The slider ground pad 26 in electrical communication with the main and return poles 17 & 18 for electrically grounding the main and

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return poles. As per claim 11, Okumura shows in figure 3 and discloses in column 1, lines 36-40 and in column 7, lines 11-29 that the slider ground pad 26 is electrically connected to the actuator arm 47.

As per claim 12, Okumura shows in figures 1 and 3 a slider for a disk drive including a slider body 12 having a slider body outer surface 11a & 11b; a read head 20 having top and bottom shields 14 & 17; and a slider ground pad 24 or 26 disposed at the slider body outer surface 11a & 11b. The slider ground pad 24 or 26 is in electrical communication with the top and bottom shields 14 & 17 for electrically grounding the top and bottom shields 14 & 17.

As per claim 13, Okumura shows in figures 1 and 3 that the top and bottom shields 14 & 17 are electrically connected. As per claim 14, Okumura shows in figure 1 and 3 that the slider ground pad 24 or 26 is electrically connected to the top shield and that the slider ground pad 24 or 26 is in electrical communication with the bottom shield through the top shield.

As per claim 15, Okumura shows in figures 1 and 3 an inductive write head having main and return poles 17 & 18. The return pole is disposed adjacent the top shield, and the slider ground pad 24 or 26 is disposed in electrical communication with the main and return poles 17 & 18. As per claim 16, Okumura shows in figure 1 a first thin film resistor layer 24 disposed upon the main pole towards the slider body outer surface 11a & 11b. The slider ground pad 24 is disposed in electrical communication with the first thin film resistor layer and the slider ground pad 24 is in electrical communication with the return pole through the main pole.

As per claim 17, Okumura shows in figures 1 and 3 that the slider ground pad 24 or 26 is disposed in electrical communication with the top and bottom shields through the main and

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return poles. As per claim 18, Okumura shows in figures 1 and 3 that the return pole is electrically connected to the top shield.

As per claim 19, Okumura shows in figures 1 and 3 that the read head 20 includes a second thin film resistor layer 16 disposed between the top and bottom shields. The top shield is electrically connected to the bottom shield through the second thin film resistor layer. The slider ground pad 24 or 26 is disposed in electrical communication with the bottom shield through the top shield. As per claim 20, Okumura shows in figure 1 a ground via 15 formed in the slider body 12. The ground via 15 is disposed in electrical communication with the slider ground pad and the top and bottom shields. The main and return poles 17 & 18 are in electrical communication with the slider ground pad 24 or 26 through the top and bottom shields.

As per claim 21, Okumura shows in figures 3 and 5 and in a disk drive including a disk drive base; an actuator arm 47 rotatably coupled to the disk drive base; and a slider distally attached to the actuator arm 47. The slider includes a slider body 12 including a slider body outer surface 11a & 11b; a read head 20 having top and bottom shields; and a slider ground pad 24 or 26 disposed at the slider body outer surface 11a & 11b. The slider ground pad 24 or 26 is in electrical communication with the top and bottom shields for electrically grounding the top and bottom shields. As per claim 22, Okumura shows in figure 3 and discloses in column 1, lines 36-40 and in column 7, lines 11-29 that the slider ground pad 24 or 26 is electrically connected to the actuator arm 47.

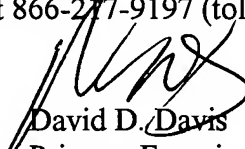
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Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to David D. Davis whose telephone number is 571-272-7572. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday thru Friday between 7:30-4:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Hoa T. Nguyen can be reached on 571-272-7579. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


David D. Davis
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2652

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